

Planning

Mission. The mission of the Metropolitan Areas Planning Department (MAPD) is to provide information, along with professional advice, on the orderly, efficient and attractive development and redevelopment of land in Wichita and Sedgwick County.

Overview. The MAPD serves as a clearinghouse for planning and development-related data for the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County. The MAPD makes recommendations on development applications and issues to the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, the City Council, the County Commission, and various boards and commissions. The MAPD facilitates citizen involvement in the planning process through workshops and hearings, and publishes periodic reports on topics such as population growth and development trends.

The Department consists of four Divisions: Administration, Current Plans, Land Use and Research, and Transportation Planning.

The Administration Division is responsible for leadership and management, overseeing the department budget, monitoring federal and state transportation grants, administering departmental personnel activities, recording minutes of several advisory boards, and providing general clerical support for the entire department. The Division responds to directives from the City Manager as guided by the City Council and the County Commission.

The Current Plans Division administers zoning and subdivision regulations. It also processes a variety of development applications to ensure conformance with adopted plans and policies, orderly development of land in a manner that minimizes the cost of providing public services while ensuring that public safety and health concerns are addressed, and maintenance of the values and quality of life of surrounding properties. Current Plans maintains the official maps reflecting platting, zoning, and rights-of-way.

Selected Service Levels

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Annexation requests	18	24	24	24
Unilateral annexations	7	10	10	8
Small city annexations	2	1	1	1
Annexation staff hours	1713	1783	1780	1700

The Land Use Division provides research and policy analysis on a wide range of community development issues for elected and appointed officials. Land Use and

Research staff contribute to developing, implementing, and monitoring the Comprehensive Plan and neighborhood planning initiatives. The Division produces graphic materials in support of MAPD and other departments.



A senior planner assists a citizen with a planning project.

The Transportation Planning Division provides research and policy analysis on transportation related issues, develops and maintains the transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan, assists in securing state and federal transportation funds, conducts special road and highway planning studies, contributes to transit planning, and coordinates the development of a pedestrian/ bicycle system. The Division is the channel through which Federal and State transportation grants such as Transportation Efficiency Act (TEA-21) are coordinated.

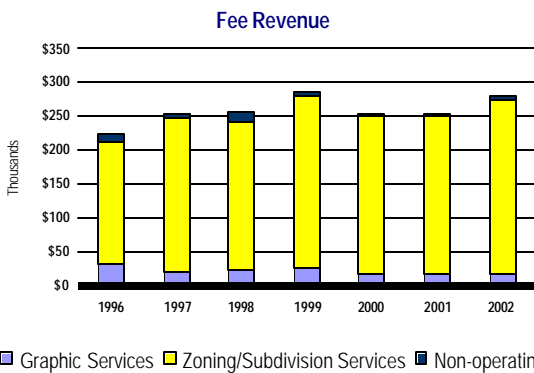
One full time and grant funded senior planner is dedicated to historic preservation. The responsibilities include design review for building alterations in and around historic districts, advertisement of a low interest loan program, and community education efforts.



MAPD staff partners with the community to preserving historic buildings.

Finance and Operations. The Planning Department is a City-County operation, funded 50 percent by the City of Wichita and 50 percent by Sedgwick County. The

department generates approximately \$250,000 annually in revenue from items such as subdivision plats, rezoning fees, and the sale of maps and planning publications. A ten-percent fee adjustment is proposed for 2001.



Transportation Planning is developing new standards for "access management" for City arterials and rural roads. Access management includes the regulation of driveway openings, limitation of turning movements, location of traffic signals, and other access features to optimally balance the need for accessibility to individual properties against the goal of smooth and safe traffic flow.

The MAPD is in the process of converting City/County zoning maps to a computerized format. Computerized access will make the maps more accessible than the

former paper versions and facilitate ease of updating. The project began in 1999 and will be completed in 2000.

The proliferation of wireless communications and need of supporting towers is a contemporary planning issue. Considerable time and financial resources have been committed to developing a master plan for the placement of wireless communication towers.

The Department recently undertook an upgrade of its personal computer inventory to streamline the development review process in connection with the City's new automated development tracking system. The technology upgrade will provide on-line permit tracking and substantially improve coordination between departments, reducing staff time in both Central Inspection and MAPD, and allowing for more efficient and timely citizen service.

Rounding out the Department activities in 2000 is the development of the Comprehensive Plan which has included the following: workshops with participants from the community, a mini-conference with guest speakers on growth management, a citizen survey completed by 2100 residents on planning and development issues, the development of alternative visions for the future, two town hall meetings on the alternatives, and three public hearings on the draft plan.

City-County Planning Department Budget Summary					
	1999 Actual	2000 Adopted	2000 Revised	2001 Adopted	2002 Approved
Personal Services	1,071,161	1,170,060	1,196,950	1,235,930	1,252,000
Contractual Services	175,649	199,230	172,850	175,300	171,380
Commodities	15,692	10,900	15,900	19,200	20,020
Capital Outlay	(2,415)	0	0	0	120,000
Total Planning Expenditures	1,260,086	1,380,190	1,385,700	1,430,430	1,563,400
Less: Sedgwick County	(481,935)	(550,250)	(562,550)	(588,460)	(644,030)
Other revenue	(296,216)	(279,700)	(260,600)	(253,510)	(275,340)
Total Planning Fund Expenditures	481,935	550,240	562,550	588,460	644,030
Grant Resources	568,570	605,200	638,990	766,290	651,440
Local Resources	1,260,086	1,380,190	1,385,700	1,430,430	1,563,400
Total Planning Resources	1,828,612	1,985,390	2,024,690	2,196,720	2,214,840
Position Summary					
Full-time	30	30	30	30	30
Part-time	3	3	3	3	3
Grant funded FTEs	8.70	8.70	8.85	8.85	8.85
Total FTE	30.20	30.20	30.20	30.20	30.20